

Administrative Provisions

Appropriations and funds available to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service shall be available for purchase of not to exceed 54 passenger motor vehicles, [;] *of which 54 are for replacement only (including 15 for police-type use)*; repair of damage to public roads within and adjacent to reservation areas caused by operations of the Service; options for the purchase of land at not to exceed \$1 for each option; facilities incident to such public recreation uses on conservation areas as are consistent with their primary purpose; an the maintenance and improvement of aquaria, buildings, and other facilities under the jurisdiction of the Service and to which the United States has title, and which are uses pursuant to law in connection with management, and investigation of fish and wildlife resources: Provided, that notwithstanding 44 U.S.C 501, the Service may, under cooperative cost sharing and partnerships arrangements authorized by law, procure printing services from cooperators in connection with jointly produced publications for which the cooperators share at least one-half the cost of printing wither in cash or services and the Service determines the cooperator is capable of meeting accepted quality standards: Provided further, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Service may use up to \$2,000,000 from funds provided for contracts for employment-related legal services: Provided further, That the Service may accept donated aircraft as replacements for existing aircraft: Provided further, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Interior may not spend any of the funds appropriated in this Act for the purchase of lands or interest in lands to be used in the establishment of any new unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System unless notice of the purchase is [approved] *transmitted* in advance [by] *to* the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations in compliance with [the] reprogramming procedures [contained in the statement of the managers accompanying this Act]. (Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006.)

Justification of Language Change

1. Deletion: “not to exceed 61 passenger motor vehicles of which 61 are for replacement only (including 44 for police-type use; ...”

The Service has identified its essential vehicle replacement needs in our normal priority setting processes. The Service is requesting only replacement vehicles.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Allocations Received from Other Accounts						
	FY 2005 Actuals		FY 2006 Estimate		FY 2007 Estimate	
	Budget Authority	Outlays	Budget Authority	Outlays	Budget Authority	Outlays
Department of Agriculture:						
Forest Pest Management	43,900	227,968	200,000	153,170	200,000	200,000
Department of the Interior:						
Office of Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration						
Damage Assessment	2,203,042	1,857,756	2,400,000	2,340,913	2,400,000	2,400,000
Restoration	14,046,616	11,693,882	14,000,000	14,013,985	14,000,000	14,000,000
Bureau of Land Management:						
Wild land Fire Management	76,296,368	66,710,994	68,376,000	73,920,258	68,376,000	68,376,000
Central Hazardous Materials Fund	3,020,000	3,540,686	3,042,000	3,026,600	3,042,000	3,042,000
Department of Transportation:						
Federal Highway Administration	5,210,791	6,854,976	6,900,000	5,717,554	5,300,000	6,420,000
Department of Labor:						
Office of Youth Programs/Job Training	5,755,879	7,351,126	5,000,000	5,529,115	5,000,000	5,000,000
Partnership Act Transfer						
TOTAL	106,576,596	98,237,388	99,918,000	104,701,594	98,318,000	99,438,000

Note: Department of Labor funding for FY 2006 and 2007 is projected on a program year basis (July 1 to June 30) rather than by fiscal year. Actuals for DOL for FY 2005 are by fiscal year.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE EMPLOYEE COUNT BY GRADE			
	2005 Actual	2006 Estimate	2007 Estimate
Executive Level V.....		1	1
Subtotal.....	0	1	1
ES.....	26	25	25
Subtotal.....	26	25	25
GS/GM-15	101	95	95
GS/GM-14	479	452	452
GS/GM-13	1,293	1,232	1,234
GS-12	1,854	1,801	1,801
GS-11	1,466	1,469	1,470
GS-10	13	13	13
GS-9	980	950	947
GS-8	147	139	139
GS-7	803	813	813
GS-6	401	405	406
GS-5	622	633	634
GS-4	294	296	287
GS-3	165	168	165
GS-2	64	65	57
GS-1	10	10	10
Subtotal (GS/GM).....	8,692	8,541	8,523
Ungraded.....	705	603	603
Total employment (actual/projected) at end of fiscal year.....	9,423	9,170	9,152

User-Pay Cost Share from Non-Resource Management Accounts ^{a/}

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recovers funding from accounts other than Resource Management for the costs of servicewide and regional office operational support. This table summarizes estimated recoveries for FY 2006 and 2007.

Activity	FY 2006 Estimate (\$000)	FY 2007 Estimate (\$000)
Discretionary Appropriations		
Construction	2,140	2,456
Land Acquisition	1,793	1,802
Cooperative Endangered Species Fund	350	354
National Wildlife Refuge Fund	299	302
North American Wetlands Conservation Fund	385	389
Landowner Incentive Grants	96	97
State and Tribal Wildlife Grants Fund	204	206
Appropriation Accounts, subtotal	5,267	5,606
Permanent and Allocation Accounts		
Migratory Bird Conservation Account	1,027	1,038
Recreation Fee Program	471	477
Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration	668	675
Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration	798	807
Wildland Fire Management (BLM)	3,661	3,702
Federal Roads (DOT/FHWA)	184	186
Natural Resource Damage Assessment/Restoration	211	213
Central Hazmat Fund (BLM)	90	91
Permanent and Allocation Accounts, subtotal	7,110	7,189
TOTAL ^{b/}	12,377	12,795

a/ In FY 2004, a cost allocation methodology was implemented to ensure distribution of these costs to all fund sources in an equitable manner. A detailed description of the user-pay cost share can be found in the General Operations section of Resource Management.

b/ Excludes indirect costs derived from reimbursable work performed for other federal, state, and local agencies. Amount of reimbursable income fluctuates based on the amount of work performed.

Statistics for House Interior Subcommittee Report

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is to conserve, protect and enhance fish and wildlife and their habitats for the continuing benefit of people. The Service has the responsibility for migratory birds, threatened and endangered species, certain marine mammals, and land under Service control.

The Service manages more than 96 million acres across the United States, encompassing a 545-unit National Wildlife Refuge System, additional wildlife and wetlands areas, and 69 National Fish Hatcheries. A network of law enforcement agents and port inspectors enforce Federal laws for the protection of fish and wildlife.

Statistics for Senate Interior Subcommittee Report

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats. The Service manages the 96 million acre National Wildlife Refuge System, which encompasses 545 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands and other special management areas. It also operates 69 national fish hatcheries, 64 fish and wildlife management offices and 81 ecological services field stations. The Agency enforces Federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Assistance program, which distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes in fishing and hunting equipment to State fish and wildlife agencies.

Research and Development

The Department is using the Administration's Research and Development (R&D) investment criteria to assess the value of its R&D programs. The criteria were developed in response to limited financial resources and the multitude of R&D opportunities that exist government-wide. The criteria are used to rigorously justify new programs and to reevaluate existing programs for modification, redirection, or termination, in keeping with national priorities and needs. The investment criteria evaluate the relevance, quality, and performance for all R&D programs.

To assure the best value of its limited R&D resources, the Department has created an R&D Council to assist in the planning, coordinating, and assessing of agency R&D activities. When necessary, the R&D Council will recommend the redirection of resources or a change in the scope of activities if it believes it is warranted. Council membership includes one program and one budget representative from each bureau, as well as representatives from the Department. The Assistant Secretary for Water and Science heads the Council. As part of the 2007 budget process, the bureaus were asked to identify their research and development activities and present their budget requests for such activities to the Council, and to explain their use of the investment criteria when making budgetary recommendations.

Through membership in the R&D council, the Service is also applying the Administration's R&D investment criteria. In addition, recent funding of the Science Excellence Initiative will increase the Service's capacity to evaluate its R&D activities in regard to **relevance** to Service programs, and facilitate appropriate peer review to ensure R&D **quality** and **performance**.

The Fish and Wildlife Service is engaged in the following R&D activities.

	FY 2005 <u>Actual</u>	FY 2006 <u>Enacted</u>	FY 2007 <u>Request</u>
National Fish Hatchery Program:			
Fish Technology Centers	\$5,965	\$6,024	\$6,321
Fish Health Centers	3,868	4,061	4,061
Fish and Wildlife Management:			
Conservation Genetics Lab	742	742	731
Science Excellence Initiative	<u>0</u>	<u>493</u>	<u>493</u>
Total	<u>\$10,575</u>	<u>\$11,320</u>	<u>\$11,606</u>

Fish Technology Centers provide leadership in the scientifically based management of national fishery resources through development of new concepts and techniques to solve specific problems in aquatic restoration and recovery activities. Activities include:

- Development of maintenance and/or propagation techniques and systems for imperiled species
- Evaluation of hatchery techniques and products.
- Testing alternative cultural practices and assessment techniques to improve the quality and cost effectiveness of hatchery-produced fish.
- Evaluation of effects of pathogens and parasites on wild fish populations.

- Monitoring hatchery effluent monitoring and pollution reduction
- Dissemination of technical information to federal and state agencies and the private sector through scientific journals, professional meetings and workshops.
- Development of cryopreservation and gene banking technology for native threatened and endangered fishery management.
- Development of culture techniques to minimize captive propagation influence on past stocking behavior or native threatened and endangered species.
- Development and evaluation of techniques for “streamside” production of native threatened and endangered fishes.

Fish Health Centers provide service, expertise and information that assist in the development of management strategies through assessment and applied research to support the protection of wild stocks and restoration of threatened and endangered species. Comprehensive aquatic animal health requires:

- Monitoring, diagnostics, and inspections of aquatic animals including their physiological and biological characteristics.
- Understanding of the condition, individual requirements, and interactions of wild and cultured fish related to disease and aquatic health.
- Application of diverse scientific fields such as microbiology, fish biology, epidemiology, toxicology, pathology, physiology, histology, and genetics.
- Active representation in management through providing information, risk analysis and management alternatives for decision making.
- Education of priority publics about the value of comprehensive fish health in preventing catastrophic losses and improving survivability of aquatic species.

Conservation Genetics Lab works with biologists and managers to design and conduct genetic research and provide expertise to address conservation and management issues, on 16 National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska, and in other Fish and Wildlife Service Regions. Activities include:

- Providing information on the genetic characteristics of fish and other populations required for conserving biodiversity. This includes identifying individual populations, determining how they are related, and grouping them into appropriate management units.
- Applying the results of genetics research to the management of important subsistence, commercial and recreational fisheries to determine patterns of migration and run-timing, and the origin of fish harvested in mixed-stock fisheries to protect depleted populations while allowing the harvest of healthy ones.

The Science Excellence Initiative (SEI) provides the executive leadership needed to position the Service in the near-term and far-term (i.e., 2020 and beyond) to meet the many science challenges inherent in its complex mission. The goals of the SEI are to:

- Provide employees with timely access to scientific information and state-of-the-art scientific tools;
- Meet employee needs for scientific research and technical assistance;
- Meet employee needs for peer interaction and collaboration among scientists;
- Identify science-based conservation strategies for habitat and population management;
- Maintain and expand the skills of employees in understanding, analyzing, applying and communicating complex scientific concepts, information and tools; and
- Ensure that employees are aware of practices and procedures that are appropriate to use when engaged in science activities, such as conducting research, seeking peer review, and using, publishing and disseminating scientific information.

The SEI relies on four kinds of activities to accomplish its goals:

- Assessing the FWS's scientific foundations and its science needs;
- Building additional science infrastructure and capacity to meet key needs;
- Building key partnerships to expand scientific understanding and knowledge; and
- Launching special projects to build scientific understanding, knowledge and partnerships in areas critical to the Service's mission.